

**From:** Odysseynorth@aol.com@inetgw  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/28/02 2:55pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Attached please find a letter voicing my thoughts and questions.

Charlene Howe  
(907) 333-7207

Charlene Howe  
8050 Resurrection Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99504-4731  
Phone: (907) 333-7207  
E Mail: OdysseyNorth@aol.com

January 25, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I tried to fax this to you on my personal letterhead but your fax lines were constantly busy. There must be a lot of people like me wanting to express our concerns.

As a businesswoman and a veterinarian's wife who has been following the Microsoft antitrust case, I believe the settlement is pretty fair. I have a lot of respect for Microsoft; they've contributed to the prosperity of the '90's, produced well-paying jobs, and provided great software at reasonable prices. Since the technology sector accounts for a third of economic growth, I am afraid what might happen to the industry if litigation continues.

Microsoft has been very cooperative throughout this ordeal. Not only have they agreed to document and disclose various Windows' internal interfaces to competitors. They also agreed to the establishment of technical team to monitor Microsoft's compliance to the settlement. What other company would risk such great exposure to competitors?

Unfortunately, the technology industry faces numerous challenges in protecting the entrepreneurial spirit we depend on. Some special interests are lobbying for increased litigation, regulation, and legislation that could impact entire industries and threaten this country's economic vitality. Should we allow this to happen?

Sincerely,

MTC-00028388\_0002

Charlene Howe